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Bangalore Mirror ON SUNDAY

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WASH THE DABBA
Rinse, dry, dispose.
VASU DIXIT

THE INVALUABLES

WE RECYCLED OUR BEST RESOLUTIONS OF 2025.

SEND YOUR OLD CLOTHES
To a dry waste centre after washing.
BHOOMI SHETTY

MARK IT RED
Wrap sanitary waste and mark with red X.
PLOG RAJA

To know how to recycle resolutions, scan code.

Last year saw Bengaluru resolve and take three actions. Washing the dabbas before disposing of them. Washing, drying, and folding old clothes before handing them over to waste pickers. And wrapping sanitary waste and marking it with a red cross.

It's 2026 now.

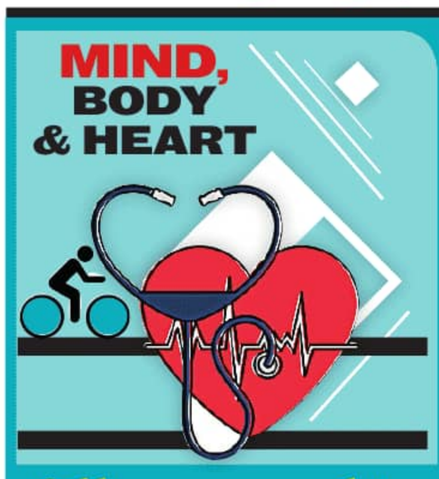
A perfect time to recycle these resolutions.
So that our waste pickers can recycle
better, with safety and dignity.

Time to
RecycleResolutions

For Bengaluru, for our waste pickers.

@invaluables.bengaluru

BBC MEDIA ACTION



All you need to know about...

Dating tips for women

Take The Initiative
No more waiting for men to make the first move! Remember, confidence is attractive, and showing interest can lead to genuine connections. It shifts the vibe from nervousness to excitement.
Tip: Start with a friendly message or suggestion to grab coffee, keeping it casual and curious.

Drip Authenticity
No more games, no playing hard-to-get. Be yourself; everyone appreciates honesty and vulnerability. It paves the way for deeper, more meaningful bonds.
Tip: Share a quirky interest or a genuine thought on your first few dates to spark real conversations.

Say 'No' To Disrespect
Stand up for yourself, prioritise mutual respect, and don't settle for anything less. Your worth isn't defined by someone else's behaviour.
Tip: Set clear boundaries early. If someone's tone feels off, calmly express how you feel.

Discuss Serious Topics Early
There's no need to waste time, so get clear on values, goals, and boundaries upfront. This avoids misunderstandings and builds a foundation of trust. On the plus side, if the other person is aligned with you, there's nothing for you to worry about.
Tip: Bring up topics like family plans or career aspirations over a relaxed dinner, and listen actively.

Nurture Connection
Focus on kindness, shared interests, and mutual growth over societal expectations. Nurture a connection that feels supportive and genuine; this will make your relationship more fulfilling and resilient.
Tip: Start a 'curiosity exchange' with your partner where you pick hobbies, dreams, or values to explore together. Actively listen to each other; this will build trust and uncover shared passions. —**Femina**

HARVEST FEAST

Three ways to make pongal and celebrate the festival of bounty

SAMAIARISI SARKARI PONGAL (LITTLE MILLET SWEET PONGAL)

INGREDIENTS
- Samai Arisi (Little Millet) – 300 gm
- Split Green Gram – 100 gm
- Jaggery – 650 gm
- Milk – 100 ml
- Water – 600 ml
- Ghee – 75 gm
- Cashew Nuts – 25 gm
- Raisins – 25 gm
- Cardamom (crushed) – 2 gm
- Salt – a pinch

METHOD
- Wash the little millet and split green gram together. Soak for 20 minutes, then drain and keep aside.
- Prepare a jaggery syrup and keep it ready.
- Pressure cook the dal until soft and set aside.
- In a clay pot or thick-bottomed vessel, add water, milk, millet and cooked dal. Cook on a slow flame until well done.
- Add the jaggery syrup and gently fold the mixture, stirring slowly. Cook for a few minutes on low heat.
- Add ghee, cardamom powder and a little coconut. Fold gently.
- Garnish with ghee-fried cashew nuts, raisins and coconut.

Pro Tip: Traditionally served in a clay pot or on a banana leaf for authentic flavour and presentation.

SARKARI PONGAL (TRADITIONAL SWEET PONGAL)

INGREDIENTS
- Raw Rice – 300 gm
- Moong Dal – 75 gm
- Jaggery – 400 gm
- Chopped Jackfruit – 200 gm
- Ghee – 120 gm
- Water – 700 ml
- Milk – 100 ml
- Cardamom – 2 gm
- Cashew Nuts – 50 gm
- Raisins – 50 gm
- Coconut Julien (thin slices) – 50 gm
- Salt – a pinch

METHOD
- Wash rice and dal together, soak for 20 minutes, drain and keep aside.
- Break jaggery into small pieces and keep ready.
- In a clay pot or thick-bottomed vessel, cook rice and dal with water and milk on a slow flame.
- Once rice is cooked, add chopped jackfruit and jaggery. Gently fold and cook for a few minutes.
- Add ghee, cardamom powder and a little coconut. Mix slowly.
- Garnish with ghee-fried cashew nuts, raisins and coconut.

Pro Tip: Do not overcook the jackfruit. Add it towards the end to retain flavour and texture. Traditionally served on a banana leaf or in a clay pot.

Gopalsamy S, Speciality Chef, Mahindra Holidays & Resorts India Ltd, for Femina

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According to official traffic violation data, 2,58,712 cases were booked for 'No Entry' violations, making it one of the top violations recorded across the city

ON COLLISION COURSE

Iffath Fathima
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TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

Even as the Delhi Traffic Police have begun registering FIRs against motorists caught driving on the wrong side of the road, netizens in Bengaluru have also called for similar strict enforcement measures. Social media users argue that wrong-side driving, often disguised as short-distance convenience, has become one of the most dangerous and normalised traffic violations in the city risking public safety. They believe that filing FIRs could act as a strong deterrent. However not many know, but the Bengaluru Traffic Police (BTP) maintains that FIRs for dangerous wrong-side driving have already been in place for the last couple of years.

Data shared with BM shows that over 1,740 FIRs have been registered against wrong-side driving in 2025.

Joint commissioner police (Traffic) Karthik Reddy said, "We are already registering FIRs against wrong-way driving under 285 BNS as it causes danger and obstruction to the public way and it's been filed for many years."

No Entry violations is a category that frequently overlaps with wrong-side driving. According to official traffic violation data, 2,58,712 cases were booked for 'No Entry'

CONTINUED ON PAGE 10 »

CITY / PAGE 5

SPOOF IN THE SKIES

All about GPS spoofing that is emerging as new-age aviation safety challenge in city

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THINGS TO DO

01 Jurassic fun

Nexus Shantiniketan Mall presents DinoVerse, an immersive dinosaur exhibit with life-sized moving models, fossil museum, interactive workshops, and Dino rides for kids and adults. **Where: Nexus Shantiniketan Mall; When: 12 pm – 9 pm, open daily until January 26**

02 Book discussion

Join The Urban Solace Book Lovers' Club to explore The Palace of Illusions by Chitra Banerjee Divakaruni, a retelling of Mahabharata from Draupadi's perspective. Experience insights, discussions, and shared love for literature. **Where: The Urban Solace; When: Jan 11,11.30 am**

03 Craft bazaar

E Enjoy Karigar Bazaar's 2nd edition at Jayamahal Palace Hotel to explore India's living craft traditions with artisans, cultural performances, workshops, regional cuisines, and heritage experiences. Fun for all ages! **Where: Jayamahal Palace Hotel; When: Jan 17–26, 11 am – 8 pm**

04 Classical melodies

Experience the 179th Sri Thyagaraja Aradhana with Pancharatna Kritis and daily classical music concerts by eminent artistes. **Where: Sringeri Shankara Matha, Chamarajapete; When: January 7–11, 8.30 am to 5 pm**

NIMHANS study highlights yoga's role in opioid recovery

Patients practicing yoga alongside buprenorphine achieve faster recovery from opioid withdrawal, experience less pain, improved sleep, decreased anxiety & enhanced parasympathetic nervous system function

Incorporating yoga offers low-cost, scalable intervention for opioid use disorder

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TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

In a first-of-its-kind clinical trial, researchers at the Centre for Addiction Medicine, National Institute of Mental Health and Neurosciences (NIMHANS), Bengaluru, have found that yoga can significantly accelerate recovery from opioid withdrawal when used alongside standard medical treatment. The study, published in JAMA Psychiatry and titled "Yoga for Opioid Withdrawal and Autonomic Regulation: A Randomised Clinical Trial", showed that patients who practised yoga in addition to buprenorphine medication achieved better outcomes than those who received medication alone.

The study was conducted at the Centre for Addiction Medicine, NIMHANS, under the supervision and guidance of Dr Pratima Murthy, Director of NIMHANS, and Dr Prabhat Chand, Head of the Centre for Addiction Medicine, in collaboration with Harvard Medical School, Boston, USA.

According to the findings, patients in the yoga group achieved withdrawal stabilisation in a median of five days, compared to nine days in the control group. This difference translated to a 4.4-times faster recovery rate.

The trial drew participants mainly from Karnataka, forming 90 per cent of the sample, while the remaining 10 per cent came from other states. It was a two-arm, early-stage randomised

In this randomised clinical trial, yoga significantly accelerated opioid withdrawal recovery and improved autonomic regulation, anxiety, sleep, and pain

clinical trial conducted at NIMHANS between April 30, 2023, and March 31, 2024, involving 59 male participants aged 18 to 50 with opioid use disorder and moderate withdrawal symptoms only.

Participants in the yoga group received ten supervised sessions, each lasting 45 minutes, over a period of 14 days, alongside standard buprenorphine treatment. The yoga intervention included relaxation practices, physical postures, breathing techniques, and guided relaxation exercises.

The results showed a clear advantage for the yoga group. Participants practising yoga stabilised faster and demonstrated significant improvements in heart rate variability, indicating better autonomic regulation. Large effects were seen in low and high frequency variability power, reflecting enhanced parasympathetic or calming nervous system activity during opioid withdrawal treatment.

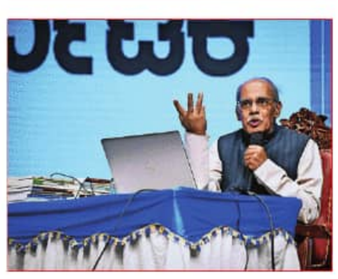
Dr Hemant Bhargav, who led the research at NIMHANS, said yoga calms the body's stress response during withdrawal. The randomised trial showed yoga accelerated opioid recovery and improved autonomic regulation, anxiety, sleep and pain, supporting its integration into withdrawal protocols as a neurobiologically informed intervention beyond symptom management approach globally.

The study also showed improvements in mental health and comfort-related outcomes. Anxiety levels dropped substantially in the yoga group, while sleep latency was reduced by an average of 61 minutes.

The authors concluded that yoga addresses core regulatory processes, including autonomic nervous system balance, rather than merely managing withdrawal symptoms. They suggested that incorporating yoga into withdrawal protocols could offer a low-cost, scalable, and biologically informed intervention to improve treatment outcomes in opioid use disorder.

VK Kannada Habba opens with blockbuster response, Day Two promises cultural feast

SRIDHAR KS



VK Kannada Habba began on a blockbuster note, drawing large crowds and enthusiastic participation on Day One. The inaugural day set a high benchmark with vibrant performances, meaningful discussions and a strong celebration of Kannada language and culture.

The Sunday's programmes will begin at 10.30 am with a Yakshagana performance titled Sindhura Sangrama by the Alva's Dinkita Yakshagana Study Centre. From 12 pm to 1 pm, a panel discussion titled Nade Kannada Nudi Kannada will explore the present journey of the Kannada language, featuring Karnataka Sahitya Academy President L N Mukundaraj, language expert Dr L G Meera, writer Shiv Kumar Mavali and professional anchor Sneha Neelappa Gowda, with author Kusuma Ayrhalli moderating. Between 1 pm and 2 pm, prizes will be distributed to winners of the Ugadi short story competition, followed by the release of the selected stories anthology Check Mate, in the presence of novelist Dr K N Ganeshiah, Kowshik Koodurasthe, film director K M Chaitanya, Prakash K and K B Parashivappa.

Theatre takes centre stage from 2 pm to 3.30 pm with Nanna Tejaswi, based on Rajeshwari Tejaswi's intimate narrative on Poornachandra Tejaswi. The cultural flow continues with a Dasavani musical journey by Dr Vidyabhushana and Medha from 3.30 pm, a talk-and-song jugalbandi Amara Madhura Gaana by Srinivasa Prabhu and Ramachandra Hadapad from 5 pm, and concludes with a vibrant Dhwani Mela by the Beat Guru team from 7 pm to 8.30 pm.

— Prakash VL

Woman's murder: Deeper conspiracy at play?

Arrest of rowdy-sheeter shows man made intricate plan to kill wife

Bangalore Mirror Bureau
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TWEETS @BangaloreMirror

Man is said to have given goon gun and cash to kill wife

The investigation into the murder of a woman on Magadi Road has taken a major turn, with Magadi Road police taking into custody a Tamil Nadu-based rowdy-sheeter in connection with the killing of an assistant bank manager, who was shot dead by her husband in public in the last week of December.

The accused has been identified as Moulesh, a rowdy sheeter from Salem. He was secured from judicial custody in Tamil Nadu on Saturday after the police obtained a warrant and transit remand. The case relates to the killing of Bhuvaneshwari (39), an assistant manager at Union Bank of India's Basaveshwaranagar branch, who was shot dead in the Industrial Town area on the evening of December 23. Her husband, Balamurugan (40), a software engineer, later surrendered before the Magadi Road police and was arrested.

According to police officials, the case, initially believed to have been triggered by marital discord, was later found to be a pre-planned murder. Investigations revealed that Balamurugan had tried to hire a contract killer and travelled to Salem to meet Moulesh, offering 1.5 lakh and one firearm, that were allegedly handed over to Moulesh as part of the plan to kill his wife. During interrogation, he reportedly admitted to procuring two pistols from Bihar.

Police said that Moulesh had come to Bengaluru and stayed for several days, monitoring the victim's movements and conducting reconnaissance. However, he reportedly backed out at the last moment, claiming he needed more time and money. Following this, Balamurugan allegedly chose to carry out the crime himself. On the evening of December 23, he intercepted his wife and shot her four to five times, killing her instantly.

A senior police officer stated that Moulesh, a habitual offender with a history of burglary and extortion, was later arrested by Salem police in a separate case. After his alleged involvement in the murder conspiracy emerged, Bengaluru police obtained a body warrant to take him into custody for further investigation. Police officials explained that the couple was separated one and half years ago due to marital discord. They said that suspicion of an affair and a pending divorce notice were the primary motives behind the crime.

Narrow escape for diners as car crashes into eatery

Nearly seven people, who were standing outside after dinner, had a narrow escape when a speeding car rammed into a road divider and crashed into a eatery on 100 Feet Road in Indiranagar late on Thursday night. The dramatic incident was captured on a nearby CCTV camera.

According to Jeevan Bima Nagar traffic police, the accident occurred around 11.34 pm when a car speeding from 18th Main Road in Indiranagar failed to make a left turn. Instead, the vehicle went straight, climbed the road divider and crashed into the hotel premises. Police said the car was driven by 42-year-old Derrick Tony, who was allegedly under the influence of alcohol at the time of the crash.

At the time of the accident, a group of young men and women, who had finished dinner, were standing outside the hotel. Hearing the loud sound as the car struck the divider, they quickly ran to safety just moments before the vehicle crashed into the building, escaping without injuries. Police said the car owner himself was driving the vehicle. He sustained minor injuries and has been admitted to a hospital. **BMB**

5 migrant workers injured in gas explosion

Five migrant workers from Bihar sustained burn injuries in an accident caused by a gas leak at their rented accommodation in Chokkasandra, on Friday morning.

According to the complaint filed by one of the injured, Anshuraj Kumar from Saran district, the group had arrived in Bengaluru a week ago and joined work as welding labourers on January 3 under contractor Dharmapala. Along with Raj, the injured include Mohammad Hussain Khan, Muzaffar Hussain, Arbaig Alam and Rohit Chaudhary. The contractor had arranged a room for them in a building near Chokkasandra Main Road, and provided cooking utensils, a commercial gas cylinder, stove and regulator. On the night of January 8, the workers cooked dinner and went to sleep. Around 6.45 am on January 9, when Khan attempted to light the stove, the cylinder exploded.

The complainant alleged that unsafe and poor-quality gas equipment was provided by Dharmaraj. The injured workers were admitted to Kanna Shri Sai Hospital, where their statements were recorded and they were later shifted to Victoria Hospital. **BMB**

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Sikkim Darjeeling ₹59,000 - 88,000* 3 tour options 7 to 11 Days
Uttar Pradesh ₹34,000 - 59,000* 7 tour options 5 to 8 Days
North East ₹71,000 - 1,32,000* 5 tour options 5 to 12 Days
Kashmir ₹59,000 - 1,11,000* 9 tour options 5 to 10 Days
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Zero waste practices redefine learning at government school

From waste segregation to menstrual hygiene recycling, Ramagondanahalli School proves public institutions can lead community-wide environmental and social change

Y Maheswara Reddy
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TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

Colour-coded bins and student-led segregation have transformed waste handling, turning daily cleanliness into a shared responsibility across classrooms and meal areas.

Generally, government schools in the city are known for poor amenities and facilities. Government schools face one or the other problems including shortage of teachers or lack of cleanliness. However, Ramagondanahalli Government School in East Bengaluru presents a strikingly different picture—one where teachers and students are conscious of the impact of their everyday choices, and classrooms are alive with creativity and discussions rooted in values and culture. Over the past five years, the school has grown from just 200 students to more than 1,000, catering largely to migrant and economically underprivileged families.

In March 2025, the school took a significant step forward by embarking on an ambitious mission to become a zero-waste facility. The management and teachers were aware that the transition would demand effort beyond routine responsibilities, but they remained determined to bring about meaningful change. To better understand the process and its long-term benefits, the school approached Vedan Trust, an NGO known for implementing zero-waste systems across the city.

As plans took shape, the next challenge was funding. Support soon came from Kenvue, a global consumer health company that backs socially responsible initiatives in health, well-being and girl-child education. Impressed by the school's vision, the company partnered with the institution to make the zero-waste project a reality. While it took around six weeks to put the required infrastructure in place, the larger task lay in driving a cultural shift among students and staff.

The school, which runs from pre-school to Grade 10 in both English and Kannada mediums, functions with minimal housekeeping staff. Six months into the initiative, the impact is visible across the campus. Waste from classrooms, staff rooms and the midday meal areas is now segregated into colour-coded bins, with students taking personal responsibility for proper disposal. Janitor Ratnamma says the change has been heartening, noting that students now understand and value cleanliness more than ever.

Physical education coach Shekhar V, an ex-army officer, believes the project is instilling a sense of nation-building among students by making them active participants in positive change. The school regularly organises street plays, poster-making and awareness campaigns centred on reducing waste, recycling, composting and correct segregation. Organic waste and leaf compost are processed on campus, while nearly 50 kg of banana peels are distributed daily to nearby cow dairies, feeding over a dozen cattle and completing what the school calls a "green Earth sustainability cycle."

The initiative has begun influencing neighbouring communities, the BECC area and nearby schools. Girl student leaders from middle and senior classes have received expert training in menstrual health and hygiene and oversee the safe disposal of sanitary waste through PadCare bins, which are later recycled. Operating under a unique Public-Philanthropic Partnership model, the school receives teaching and curriculum support from Inventure Academy, Teach For India and community volunteers from Whitefield and the Rotary IT Corridor. This collaboration has helped create a vibrant learning environment that distinguishes Ramagondanahalli Government School. Headmistresses Deepa R and Uzra Banu say the school lives by a simple motto: when we change for the better, the world changes.

Once struggling with basic challenges, this government school now inspires students, staff and neighbours through a zero-waste mission blending discipline, partnerships and grassroots leadership

Fewer bus bays, more commuter chaos

The Bangalore International Airport Authority Limited has sharply reduced parking bays for Vayu Vajra buses at Terminal 1 of Kempegowda International Airport, dealing a blow to passengers dependent on affordable public transport in Bengaluru. The number of bus bays has been cut from fourteen to six, reducing halt time from twenty to thirty minutes earlier to under ten minutes now. As a result, many passengers are missing designated route buses, triggering allegations that the move is pushing flyers toward costly private taxis. Bus drivers have also raised concerns, saying they are no longer allowed to wait at Terminal 1 and are instead forced to shuttle to the P7 parking area, nearly two to three kilometres away, consuming working hours and leaving little time for meals. Transport Minister Ramalinga Reddy said the issue has come to his notice and assured he would take it up with the Chief Secretary to ensure corrective steps in passengers' interest soon and with urgency statewide. — BMB

Power banking planned ahead of summer

Energy Minister K J George has directed officials to put in place a power banking system and ensure uninterrupted electricity supply during the coming summer, with a clear focus on avoiding load shedding. Chairing a review meeting with senior energy department officials, the minister asked them to assess power demand for the three-month period from March to May in advance and make necessary arrangements for generation and procurement. He stressed that available solar power should be optimally utilised during daytime hours, while hydel and coal-based generation must be ramped up at night to balance supply and demand. Officials informed the minister that Karnataka successfully met a record peak demand of 17,220 MW in December, and summer demand is expected to be about five percent higher, necessitating careful planning and timely coordination to ensure reliable electricity supply across the state consistently. — BMB

Digital student ids rollout faces awareness hurdles

The School Education Department has stepped up efforts to accelerate registration for the Automated Permanent Academic Account Registry APAR ID and Permanent Education Number PEN ID under the National Education Policy after progress slowed due to limited parental awareness. The initiative seeks to digitise student academic records under the one nation one card concept enabling marksheets and certificates to be stored securely in DigiLocker and accessed from early education through higher studies and employment.

Registration began in Karnataka in 2024 using Aadhaar based verification but enrolment has lagged prompting special drives and awareness campaigns in Bengaluru. Officials said that in the 2025 academic year only 60.11 lakh of the state 1.15 crore students have been registered leaving 54.33 lakh pending.

With the IDs set to become mandatory schools have been instructed to obtain written parental consent and link Aadhaar details. Discrepancies in names and dates of birth between Aadhaar and school records have delayed registrations. The department plans parent teacher meetings ahead of the 2026 academic year to boost enrolment stressing transparency easier verification and reduced dependence on physical documents. — BMB

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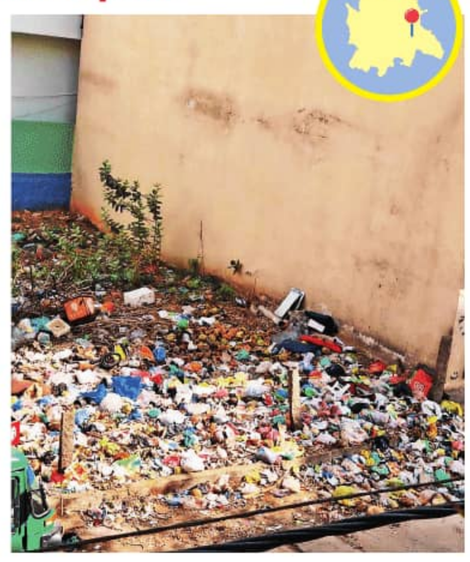
Traffic disruption

RT Nagar

The road near a bakery on 3rd Main, Chunchappa Block, RT Nagar has collapsed over the Rajakaluve. It has remained closed for 11 days, disrupting local traffic and daily commutes.

Garbage menace

Shivapura



Despite daily clearance, garbage keeps piling up at Shivapura, Peenya Industrial Area every night. Residents warn of health hazards and urge GBA to identify and penalize those responsible.

Road blockage

Chamarajpet

Haphazard vehicle parking on First Main Road, Chamarajpet, is causing traffic congestion and inconvenience to local residents.

Cotton threads only at kite festival to keep wildlife safe

Glass-coated manja banned at Whitefield venue to prevent bird injuries and ensure public safety

Bangalore Mirror Bureau
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If you are heading to the kite-flying festival being held at Whitefield today, be sure to carry cotton thread to fly your kite. The event, expected to attract hundreds of kite enthusiasts, has banned the use of Chinese dor or manja, as well as other synthetic kite-flying threads coated with glass or harmful substances.

"We have decided against all harmful threads, including glass- or metal-coated manja. This has been done to ensure that no birds or animals are harmed during or after the event," said a representative of the event organisers.

The festival is being held at Bhoruka Technology Park.

The festival will have volunteers from the Avian and Reptile Rehabilitation Centre (ARRC), a city-based NGO that has been spreading awareness about the harmful impact of glass-coated threads, to monitor and ensure that no manja is being used.

Teams of volunteers will be stationed at the entry gate to ensure that no one enters the event with manja. Spot checks will be conducted, and a skit will also be performed to highlight the dangers of manja.

Notably, the use of harmful threads for kite-flying is banned in Karnataka. In October 2024, the Karnataka government issued a notification reiterating the ban on Chinese manja and other harmful kite-flying threads. A total ban on Chinese dor or manja and similar threads had earlier been imposed in 2016. However, Chinese manja continues to be in use.

Kite enthusiasts take to the skies, ensuring no glass-coated manja is used

City-based bird and animal rescue centres have highlighted a rise in manja-related casualties during and around the Sankranti festival.

ARRC volunteers underline that over the last few months, rescues linked to kite strings have increased sharply. In the last quarter of 2025, ARRC rescued 1,560 birds, accounting for 43.16 per cent of the total 3,614 manja-related rescues recorded during the year.

Experts say that when people experience the impact of manja through performance and storytelling rather than statistics, the message becomes personal. This form of awareness creates space for reflection and encourages safer, more responsible choices without taking away from the spirit of celebration.

"Our skit, Bird's Eye View, tells the story of our city through a bird's eyes—where manja, glue traps and glass façades turn everyday flight into a life-threatening risk. It reflects the realities these birds face while trying to survive in a fast-growing, ever-changing cityscape," said Subiksha Venkatesh, lead wildlife rehabilitator at ARRC.

GPS spoofing sparks aviation alert over Bengaluru skies

Rajya Sabha reply reveals satellite navigation disruptions, triggering advisories and enhanced monitoring to safeguard aircraft during critical landing phases

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Bengaluru's airspace has recorded instances of GPS spoofing, bringing the technology capital into sharp focus as India grapples with a new-age aviation safety challenge that, until recently, was largely discussed in global forums.

The disclosure was made in a written reply by the Union civil aviation ministry in the Rajya Sabha, confirming that Kempegowda International Airport is among several major airports where Global Navigation Satellite System (GNSS) interference has been reported. For a city that handles heavy passenger traffic and complex flight movements, the development has triggered closer scrutiny of how satellite-based navigation risks are being managed.

Kempegowda Airport authorities tighten monitoring after GPS spoofing reports emerge

Parliament disclosure

Responding to a Rajya Sabha starred question raised by S Niranjan Reddy on GPS spoofing at IGI Airport, the minister said some flights approaching the airport had reported spoofing while using GPS-based landing procedures. He added that contingency procedures were followed and that there was no disruption to flight movements, particularly on runways supported by conventional navigation aids.

Crucially, the reply also stated that similar GNSS interference reports are now being received regularly from other major airports, including Bengaluru, indicating that the issue is not confined to a single location.

Aviation experts said GPS spoofing involves broadcasting false satellite signals that can mislead an aircraft's navigation system into calculating an incorrect position, altitude or speed. Modern airports such as Bengaluru increasingly rely on GNSS-based procedures, especially during approaches and landings, as they allow precise guidance even during poor visibility. When spoofing occurs, pilots may notice inconsistencies in cockpit displays and are trained to immediately switch to alternative navigation sources or discontinue the approach if required.

Experts warn spoofing can distort aircraft positioning, prompting crews to switch guidance systems during approaches

Aviation officials stress that such events are treated seriously, even when there is no immediate operational impact.

To ensure resilience, India retains a Minimum Operating Network of conventional ground-based navigation and surveillance systems. These include Instrument Landing Systems, which provide radio-based guidance during landings, and VHF Omnidirectional Range and Distance Measuring Equipment, which help pilots determine bearing and distance from a ground station.

The ministry said these systems are maintained in line with global best practices, ensuring aircraft can operate safely even if satellite navigation is temporarily unreliable. At airports such as Bengaluru, this layered approach is critical given the volume and diversity of aircraft movements.

Reddy said the Directorate General of Civil Aviation has issued multiple advisories to address GNSS interference. An advisory circular released in November 2023 laid down initial guidance, followed by a detailed Standard Operating Procedure in November 2025 mandating real-time reporting of GPS spoofing and jamming incidents.

These reports are now received from several airports, enabling authorities to track patterns and respond more quickly. The Airports Authority of India has also engaged the Wireless Monitoring Organisation to help identify possible sources of interference, mobilising additional resources based on location data shared by aviation agencies.

Cyber dimension

The Rajya Sabha reply also highlighted wider cybersecurity threats to aviation, including ransomware and malware attacks. With Bengaluru being both an aviation hub and a major technology centre, strengthening digital defences has assumed added importance.

The Airports Authority of India is rolling out advanced cybersecurity solutions for its IT networks and infrastructure, in line with guidelines from the National Critical Information Infrastructure Protection Centre and CERT-In. Officials said cybersecurity measures are continuously upgraded as threat profiles evolve.

HC denies honeymoon parole to convict

The Karnataka High Court has declined to grant parole for conjugal reasons to a young life-term convict, stating that he must wait longer before making such a request. The inmate, currently lodged at Parappana Agrahara Central Prison, was earlier granted parole for his marriage but has now been told that permission for a 'honeymoon' cannot be considered at this stage. The 28-year-old was sentenced to life imprisonment on November 26, 2024 by the 51st City Civil and Sessions Court for the murder of a young woman. His initial parole request for marriage was rejected by prison authorities in January 2025 on the grounds that emergency parole is usually granted only for the marriages of close relatives and not for a convict's own wedding.

Following a petition filed by his mother, the High Court in September 2025 directed prison authorities to grant him 15 days' parole for marriage, subject to strict conditions such as regular reporting at a police station and restrictions on movement. After complying with the terms and returning to prison after his marriage, the convict sought parole again on the grounds of conjugal rights.

The High Court, rejecting the plea, ruled he can reapply only after six months, clarifying that immediate parole for conjugal purposes is not allowed. –BMB

Writer found dead at her home

Bengaluru-based Kannada publisher and writer Asha Raghu was found dead at home in Malleswaram on Saturday.

According to police, family members became concerned after repeated attempts to reach her by knocking on the door and calling her name went unanswered. They later broke open the door and found her hanging. Malleswaram police were alerted and rushed to the scene to conduct an initial inspection. Asha, who lost her husband two years ago and was reportedly depressed, is survived by her daughter. Police have registered an unnatural death case, and investigation is ongoing.

Asha Raghu was a well-known figure in Kannada literary circles. A noted novelist, she authored several acclaimed works, including Aavarta, Gata, Maaye, and Chittranga. She worked in TV as a dialogue writer and assistant director and received the Karnataka Sahitya Academy Award and 'Sahityamrutha Saraswathi' in 2023. –BMB

(If you or someone you know is struggling with suicidal thoughts, reach out to Tele-Manas helpline: 14416 or 1800-891-4416, SAHAI Helpline: 080-25497777)

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BENGALURU SPEAKS

and gets heard on this page

STORYBEHINDTHEPHOTO

STUNNING VIEW

A reader says he spent the first day of this year by clicking the majestic Mysore Palace

The picture was clicked by reader **Shatrunjay Sharan**

If you have a picture and a story to share, send us the picture with your name and number at **mybangaloremirror@timesofindia.com**

Civic squads seal unsafe kitchens inside city paying guest homes

Surprise checks reveal unsafe cooking practices, missing permits, resident complaints prompt wider regulatory action citywide

The Bengaluru Central City Corporation has intensified its crackdown on unhygienic and unauthorised paying guest accommodations, sealing filthy kitchens and issuing notices to errant operators in the heart of the city. The enforcement drive, carried out in CV Raman Nagar and Shantinagar, followed a surge in complaints from residents and PG occupants over unsafe food, poor sanitation and blatant rule violations.

The joint inspection was conducted on the directions of Central Commissioner Rajendra Cholan and led by Additional Development Commissioner Daljit Kumar. Teams from the health, licensing and engineering wings inspected PGs for sanitation levels, food safety, fire preparedness and legal compliance. Officials said many of the facilities were functioning like full-fledged commercial hostels, but without mandatory permissions or basic safety standards.

During the inspections, officials verified trade licences, fire safety arrangements and hygiene conditions. Several PG owners and managers were questioned on the spot and asked to produce documents. Civic teams found that many establishments were operating without valid trade licences and had failed to meet minimum hygiene norms. Kitchens were found to be poorly maintained, with food stored in open containers and, in some cases, rotten vegetables being used for daily meals.

"Many PGs have no regard for residents' safety. Licences are missing, kitchens are filthy and rules are openly flouted," said a senior civic official involved in the drive. Notices were issued to multiple PGs for violations ranging from poor sanitation and lack of safety equipment to unauthorised commercial activity.

In cases where serious health risks were identified, officials sealed the kitchens after drawing up a mahazar. Civic authorities stressed that the action was not symbolic but a strict enforcement measure aimed at preventing food-borne illnesses. Officials noted that most PG residents are students and working professionals who depend entirely on in-house meals and are especially vulnerable to unsafe food practices.

Joint inspections in CV Raman Nagar and Shantinagar uncovered licence breaches, unsafe food handling and obstruction during checks, prompting immediate enforcement and warnings of wider action

The drive briefly hit a snag in Shantinagar when officials were denied entry to a PG for nearly 20 minutes. After repeated attempts to gain access failed, the police were called in. Once inside, inspectors found that the PG was operating without a trade licence and running an unauthorised kitchen on the terrace. A notice was issued to the owners, warning that the entire premises would be sealed from next month if violations were not rectified. A copy of the notice was pasted on the building.

Civic officials said similar inspection drives will continue across other zones in the coming days. PG owners have been instructed to obtain valid licences, maintain clean kitchens, follow food safety norms and comply with fire regulations. Residents and PG occupants have also been urged to report unhygienic or illegal PGs. "This is about basic dignity and safety. Clean food and safe living conditions are non-negotiable," an official said. **— BMB**

DID YOU KNOW?

A mountain gorilla has given birth to twin males in conflict-hit eastern Congo, a rare boost for the endangered subspecies, Virunga National Park said. The twins, born to a 22-year-old female named Mafuko, were discovered on January 3 and appeared healthy at the time of observation. Virunga, Africa's oldest national park, spans more than 3,000 square miles and is home to many of the world's remaining mountain gorillas, despite large areas being affected by rebel control and forest loss. Park officials said raising twins is especially challenging in the early months, as the infants are entirely dependent on their mother. The newborns are being closely monitored to ensure their survival. Photographs released by the park show Mafuko holding both babies while seated on the forest floor amid green foliage. Born into the Kabirizi family, Mafuko later joined the Bageni family after her mother was killed by armed individuals in 2007. This is Mafuko's seventh offspring. A previous set of twins born in 2016 died a week later. The Bageni family now has 59 members, making it the largest gorilla group in Virunga National Park. **— Reuters**

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Craigslist prank sparks fake day-care fraud scare

CLAIM: A Craigslist advert seeking child actors to legitimise a Minnesota day-care centre is being used as proof of alleged fraud by Somali residents.

THE FACTS: This is false. The advert, which was posted on 1 January in Craigslist's Hennepin County, Minnesota, section for general labour jobs, was bait for an online prank show, its co-host Joey LaFleur told the Associated Press.

As the Trump administration continues to investigate a series of alleged fraud schemes at Minnesota day-care centres run by Somali residents, social media users are falsely citing a Craigslist advert as evidence of such deceit. The advert, which is no longer live, claimed a day-care centre in Minneapolis' Ventura Village neighbourhood was hiring 20 child actors for three days to pose as attendees while it was vetted by the state. It noted that the children would be paid $1,500 per day.

However, the advert was a prank. It is not proof of fraud in Minnesota.

Here is a closer look at the facts.

"The show's called Goofcon1 and it is a funny show," LaFleur said. "We do pranks and things like that." He added that the show received a "ton of responses" to the advert and said he and his two co-hosts will be doing a live show on Saturday, during which they will call people who expressed interest.

Screenshots of the advert were used in social media posts on multiple platforms, cited as proof of fraud at Minnesota day-care centres. The posts gained tens of thousands of likes, shares and views.

"BREAKING – A Craigslist advert seeking child actors for a day-care in Minneapolis' Hennepin County has been discovered, with the poster requesting 20 children to act as clients while the state observes them to determine whether it is a legitimate day-care," reads one X post sharing the advert.

A man in a TikTok video called the advert "100% serious." The video was viewed approximately 14,300 times.LaFleur said that, in addition to being a prank show, Goofcon1 aims to protect against predators and to call out conservatives who "don't care about fact-checking."

Minnesota Governor Tim Walz ended his bid for a third term on Monday amid President Donald Trump's relentless focus on the fraud investigations. Also on Monday, the Trump administration said it plans to tighten rules for federal childcare funds. **— AP**

THE SUNDAY READ

The quiet luxury of taking long

Handloom cannot be rushed. It is a story of patience, detail, and timelessness

| R Prashanth Vidyasagar
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TWEETS @BangaloreMirror

There are places where time slows down on purpose. Where iron meets cotton, wool remembers winter, silk carries stories, and hands move with a confidence machines will never learn. The National Handloom Expo at Rani Abbakka Playground, Mahalakshmi Layout, is one such place. This is not an exhibition to rush through. It makes you pause. It asks where things come from, how long they take, and who still knows how to make them. What follows is only a glimpse.

Where cotton learns to breathe

Raja Rishi from Rajasthan works with hand block printing on pure cotton and bedsheets, dyed using iron, wheat, and pomegranate. The colours do not shout. They sit quietly, ageing well, settling into the fabric. There is nothing synthetic in how they feel or look. This is cloth that breathes because it was never hurried.

Borders that carry a region's memory

At the Ganjendragad Weavers Cooperative Society, GI-tagged Patteda Anchu sarees speak softly but firmly. The body stays minimal. The borders carry the weight Gomi, Gadidadi, and Chikki Paras. Sharanappa explains how much labour it takes to make something look this simple. Prices start around ₹1,500, a figure that feels small once the work behind it is understood.

A saree that tells a story

Aniketh from Meharma village in Jharkhand unfolds hand-painted Tussar silk sarees where stories run end to end. Seetha Rama Kalyana appears scene by scene, painted directly onto silk. A seventh-generation weaver, he talks about cocoons and silk strength with ease. Priced between ₹4,000 and ₹12,000 and Silk Mark certified, these sarees are made by an Adivasi weavers' collective. What you see is not just a saree but a system holding itself together.

Wool that remembers home

From North Karnataka, Revanna Siddappa of the Honnali Sheep Weavers Cooperative Society stands surrounded by warmth. Kuri unne blankets and scarves (Usually in black, white and Grey) made from native sheep wool shed, smell earthy, sometimes feel coarse, and last for years. Traditionally worn by shepherds and used in rituals. You can also find the Australian wool versions (colourful) for urban comfort. But native wool, now disappearing, carries a character that cannot be replicated. Blankets sell here from ₹1,200, only to surface later in city boutiques at several times the price. That difference is not craftsmanship. It is distance.

Curtains that change lives quietly

Navaneetha BG, an artist from Bengaluru, sources curtain fabric, hand block prints it, and trains specially abled individuals and women to stitch and assemble from their homes. They are paid fairly. There is no performance of charity here. Just work, skill, and dignity moving steadily forward.

The last man standing

In a quiet corner, Ambadas, 67, works on Solapur wall hangings. Watching him work changes the pace of the room. He says no one in his family will continue after him. When he stops, the craft stops. He states it plainly. No nostalgia. Just truth.

Gold that outlives time

Hema Malini speaks calmly about Mysore traditional painting. Each piece uses pure 22 kt gold and follows the strict grammar of the Sri Tattvanidhi. Executed by a single artist, these works are meant to last centuries, not seasons. Trained under Dr. J. Dundaraja, she is an authorised GI practitioner.

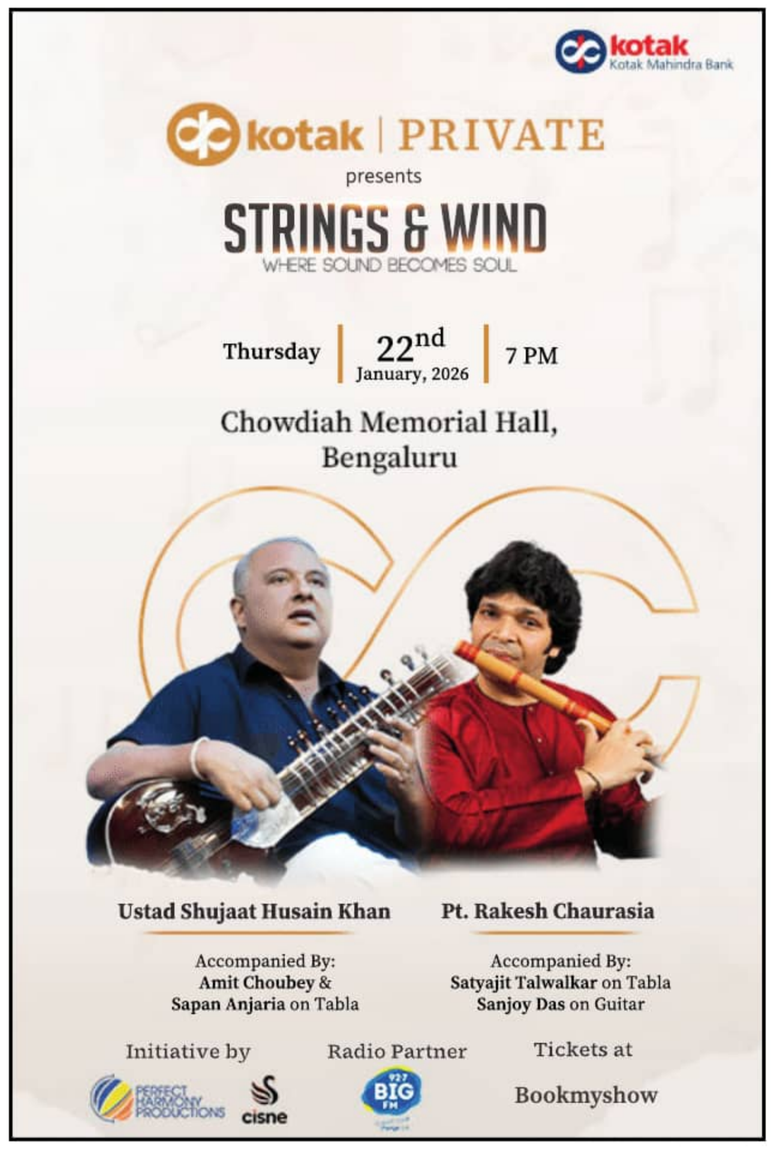
Wearing the cause

Sisters Thunga and Ashika of Agastya Heritage talk about wearing the cause without slogans. A handloom saree takes 24 to 36 hours to weave. In that time, a machine can make several. Speed is not innovation. It is omission.

What this place reveals

If slow fashion and ethical consumption are words you use easily, this is where they are tested. Look at prices without filters or markups. Items here start at ₹25, and they are not gimmicks. They are proof.

The expo runs till January 15. If meaning without markup and skill without intermediaries still matter, the lesson is simple. Go where the hands are.



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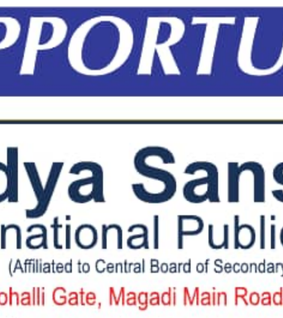

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personal

CHANGE OF NAME

I, Shafiulla Sharif S/o Sharif Ahmed R/o 128, Masjid E Qura Yadav Nagar BSK 2nd StageBanashanagar II stage B'lore-560070 have changed my name to Shafi Ahmed.

I, V CHANDRASEKHAR NAIDU Residing at No. 1461/ D, 22nd Cross, 4th Main, 7th Sector, HSR Layout, Bangalore-560102 hereby state that in my minor's Son V NITISH CHOWDARY's school record the Mother's Name is mentioned as V SARITHA instead of SARITHA A M and his name is mentioned as NITHISH CHOWDARY VELAKATURI instead of V NITHISH CHOWDARY. Names have been rectified as said above vide affidavit dated 08-01-2026 before Notary Jain Swarnamala, Bangalore

I, BHUVANESHWARI INDIRAN R/at No. 178, 11TH CROSS 2ND MAIN VINAYAKANAGAR, VIBUTHIPURA, BENGALURU -560037 have changed my name to BHUVANESWARI INDIRAN vide affidavit dated: 10/1/2026 Before Notary K.V.Mani Bangalore.

I, Mubeena Kottapalli, W/o. Syed Sameer Ahmed, R/o. # G04, 37/7, Vensa Royal Apts, HSR Layout, Somasundarapalya Main Road, Bangalore 560102. I had retained my maiden name "Mubeena Gundluru" for all purposes wide Affidavait No. IN-KA45893783448153Y

I, M C Naresh, Residing at No 26-4-699/1, Thyagaraj Nagar, Hindupur, Andhara Pradesh -515201, Have changed our daughter name N NIYANTIKA to N NIYA, vide affidavit dated 09/01/2026 sworn before Notary Aravind Patil G.G Bangalore

I, Gulnaz Begum Basha W/o Jamal Ahmed R/o No 9/1 Milk Man Street Langford Road, Hockey Stadium Shanthinagar, Bengaluru-560025.Have Changed My Name to Mehrin Taj for All Purposes.

I MOHAMED JAFAR BALAGANUR S/o Dawool Sab R/@ No 503 2nd Cross 3rd Main Gangondanahalli Bangalore 560039 had changed my name to MOHAMED JAFAR for all purposes

I, Radhika K Patel, w/o Rahul N Patel, R/o No-26/2, Umiya Nivas Greenwood Regency, Sarjapura Main Road Doddakanneli, B'luru-560035 have changed my name to Radhika Patel for all Purposes.

I, Babu Joseph S/o C T Joseph, Residing at No. 3, B Block, Malachite Sobha Ultima Campus, Yelahanka, Bangalore - 560064, have changed my name from Babu Joseph Chirackal to Babu Joseph.

I, Marina Babu W/o Babu Joseph, residing at No. 3, B Block, Malachite Sobha Ultima Campus, Yelahanka, Bangalore - 560064, have changed my name from Marina Babu Chirackal to Marina Babu.

I, Abhijeet Ashok Dhanapune r/o D-S03, Alaya Apartments, 26 Harlur Main Road, Ambalipura, Bangalore 560102 have changed my name as Abhijeet Dhanapune

OBITUARY

SAD DEMISE

SAD DEMISE
My Mother
K.SHARFUNNISA
W/o. Late Mohammed Khasim
M/o. Mohammed Saleem
Expired On Saturday
The 10th January 2026
Burial on 11th January 2026
in Khuddus Saheb Eidgah Namaz - E - Janaza In Khadriya Masjid after Zuhr Namaz.
Deeply mourned by
Mohammed saleem (son)
Mohammed Danish (grand son)
440, Sampige Road, Malleswaram, Bangalore-560003

Urban heat island effect has made land warmer in winter

City's land surface temperature has risen by over 6 degrees between 2019 & 2023

A foggy morning in Bengaluru

Bangalore Mirror Bureau
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@timesofindia.com

TWEETS @BangaloreMirror

Researchers also looked at levels of NO2 pollution in city in a given period and found that levels of this air pollutant in Bengaluru saw a drop of 16.6 percent indicating role of vegetation in pollution mitigation

Bengaluru's land surface temperature during winter has increased considerably over the last few years.Between 2019 and 2023, the city's land surface temperature increased by more than 6 degrees, reaching 34.64 degrees Celsius, from 28.4 degrees Celsius in 2019. This amounts to a 22 percent surge, an unexpected increase, researchers say.

According to experts, this warming may be attributed to urban heat island effects intensified by ongoing urban expansion.

While winter land surface temperature has gone up, the summer value has recorded a drop of more than 17 percent in the given period, noted a satellite-based study conducted by researchers from Salim Ali Centre for Ornithology and Natural History in Coimbatore, Saveetha Medical College and Hospital in Tamil Nadu, and Mississippi State University in Mississippi, USA.

Researchers also looked at the levels of NO2 pollution in the city in a given period and found that levels of this air pollutant in Bengaluru saw a drop of 16.6 percent, indicating vegetation's role in pollutant mitigation during active growing seasons.

To explore how NO2 levels are impacted by surface conditions, they examined the associations between NO2 levels and two key environmental variables, vegetation cover and land surface temperature.

Levels of NO2 during summer months declined from 58.64 in 2019 to 35.35 µmol m–2 in 2020, followed by a gradual surge to 48.89 µmol m–2 in 2023. Over the 5 years, Bengaluru recorded a 16.6 percent reduction in summer NO2 and a slight 2.1 percent decline in winter concentrations.

Experts say this drop may be due to a combination of reasons, including effective air quality management measures, stricter vehicle emission controls, expansion of public transportation, and preservation of green spaces. Moreover, the higher elevation of the city and inland location might also be leading to the dispersion of air pollutants.

"The warmer winter surface temperatures (also) could enhance vertical mixing, leading to pollutant dispersion and contributing to the slight decrease in winter NO2 levels. Bengaluru's challenge lies in sustaining this drop in NO2 levels by bringing in sustainable transport systems, mitigating the urban heat island effect, and protecting green infrastructure," researchers noted.

SOCIALTATTLE

THAT WENT VIRAL

A X user's post that traffic is not living in the city, but the city is living in traffic has touched a chord

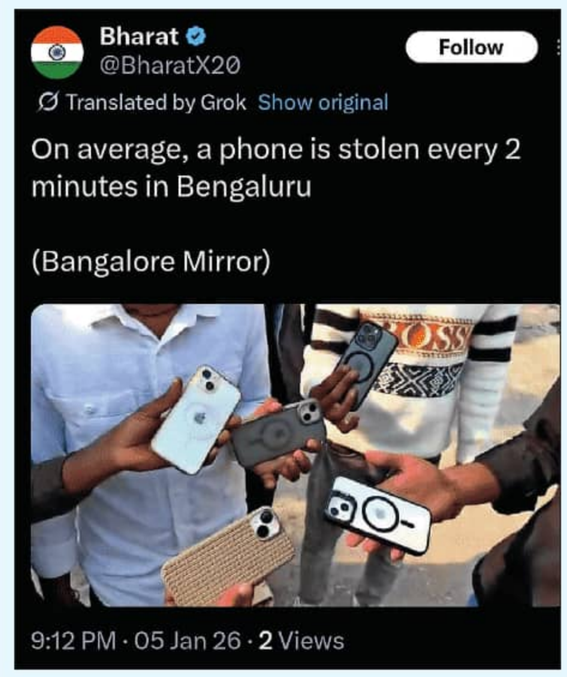
A long post on Reddit about the city's notorious traffic has people talking. The post says, "I love city but can't take it anymore..."

Bengaluru is my city, I love it. But I just can't take it anymore.
Citizen's Report
Dear Bengaluru Government, please do not make me hate this city. I've lived here all my life and loved every bit of it. I have not lived in any other city, and I have no problem with that. Bengalore is my city.
But the past few years, everything has gotten worse. The traffic, the air, the water, and most importantly, the roads.
I travel at least twice a week the entire stretch of ORR, from Silk Board to Mahadevpura, and I just can't anymore. The traffic has gotten so terrible. I tried everything: office cab, switching 3 metros, bus, personal car, and personal bike. Everything has its pros and cons, but overall, every mode of transport suffers the same issue: bad roads, terrible drivers, and bumper-to-bumper traffic.
The main issues/possible improvements (in ORR) I see are:
1. Terrible lane management. Buses (mainly) and cab drivers switch lanes like there is no tomorrow. This causes random choke points and traffic just keeps getting worse exponentially.

Follow
After tasting dosas in both Tamil Nad and Bengaluru, I must admit that no one makes dosas better than the folk in Bengaluru. Tamil Nadu dosas pale comparison by miles.
10:31 PM · 08 Jan 26 · 185K Views
140 Reposts 77 Quotes 1,975 Likes
73 Bookmarks

But, on the flip side, we have the dosa and the Bengaluru dosa taste is stuff of viral posts!

BANGALORE MIRROR MENTIONED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Translated by Grok Show original
On average, a phone is stolen every 2 minutes in Bengaluru
(Bangalore Mirror)
9:12 PM · 05 Jan 26 · 2 Views

Our story about phones being stolen in the city has caught readers' and social media's eyes

NO SHORTCUT TO SAFETY

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

violations, making it one of the top violations recorded across the city. Traffic police officials point out that vehicles entering one-way roads or restricted stretches often end up driving against the designated traffic flow, significantly increasing the risk of head-on collisions.

Data from the BTP accessed for 2025, highlights the enforcement pattern behind these violations. The numbers show that Bengaluru recorded 2.59 lakh 'No Entry' challans, with 71% issued through contact-based enforcement and 29% through contactless (camera-based) systems. On average, the city recorded 500 contact-based No Entry violations per day, compared to 223 violations detected daily through automated cameras.

Monthly trends show spikes during certain periods, with August 2025 recording nearly 43,900 No Entry violations, followed by November with over 36,000 cases.

A senior BTP official said, "Wrong-side driving is not a minor lapse in judgment, it disrupts the very logic of the road and turns what should be a shared public space into a zone of constant risk. When one person chooses to ride or drive against the flow of traffic, everyone else is forced to react to that single decision, often with consequences that can change lives forever."

Over time, such behaviour erodes road discipline by making lawful driving feel unsafe and, in effect, punishes those who follow the rules. The official said, "In urban traffic, wrong-side driving is not merely illegal, it strikes at the heart of predictability, which is the foundation of road safety. Each instance normalises danger, slowly creating a culture where convenience is placed above human life. We have been filing FIRs but the violation still continues. People don't understand that by doing so they are risking their own lives."

Traffic officials pointed out that many motorists don't have the patience to wait and exploit rules to take shortcuts. Many citizens even pointed out to the bike, auto or taxi aggregators breaking rules.

A netizen had flagged a disturbing incident involving a bike taxi rider who continued to drive recklessly on the wrong side of the road despite repeated requests to stop. The citizen described the behaviour as dangerous and irresponsible, raising concerns about passenger safety and the growing normalisation of such risks on Bengaluru's roads. Some even highlighted the menace amongst food delivery riders. "A wrong-side driver is not just violating a rule; they are endangering every oncoming road user. FIRs, licence suspension, and vehicle seizure should be standard for repeat offenders," said a civic expert.

The traffic police say they conduct regular awareness drives across the city to promote safer road behaviour and reduce violations. These initiatives include on-ground campaigns at traffic junctions, school and college outreach programmes, road safety workshops for cab and delivery riders, and digital awareness messages circulated through social media and electronic display boards. Officials say the drives focus on discouraging dangerous practices such as wrong-side driving, jumping signals, speeding and riding without helmets or seat belts, while also educating commuters on traffic rules, penalties and the consequences of violations, especially in accident-prone zones.

"In urban traffic, wrong-side driving is not merely illegal, it strikes at the heart of predictability, which is the foundation of road safety. Each instance normalises danger, slowly creating a culture where convenience is placed above human life

–Traffic official

Script above all

Kalyani says language not an issue, she is greedy for just good stories

Director Priyadarshan's daughter Kalyani Priyadarshan is reportedly set for her Bollywood entry opposite Ranveer Singh in 'Pralay'. In the midst of the speculation, she shared that quality scripts "have always come my way" no matter the language, while discussing the Hindi film proposals landing at her doorstep.

Talking to Hindustan Times, Kalyani said, "I don't know how to explain this, but good stories have always found me, whatever the language is. I've always said that I'm a very greedy actor when it comes to scripts. If there's a good script, whichever language it is in, whether it's Marathi, Hindi, Kannada, Tamil, Telugu or Malayalam, I want it. Obviously, I'm one person and I can't shoot 10 movies at the same time and there are 100 great scripts out there. But this is where I'm at."

Kalyani also shared her keen interest in Hindi cinema projects, stressing that her focus remains on compelling scripts and compelling narratives above all. She stressed that language has never posed an obstacle for her in cinema or narrative crafting. The actress revealed that she has always believed that the one thing that is truly universal is emotion.

Kalyani noted she can't confirm if Hindi offers increased or decreased post-Lokah, since opportunities were always present. She explained her dedication to fully committing her time to each film.

'Pralay' is Bollywood's first real zombie apocalypse film, as per the reports. It differs from 2013's Saif Ali Khan starrer 'Go Goa Gone', which had fun, modern zombies. Ranveer's movie is set in a post-apocalyptic world with a chaotic, dystopian Mumbai.

—ETimes

"If there's a good script, whichever language it is in, whether it's Marathi, Hindi, Kannada, Tamil, Telugu or Malayalam, I want it"

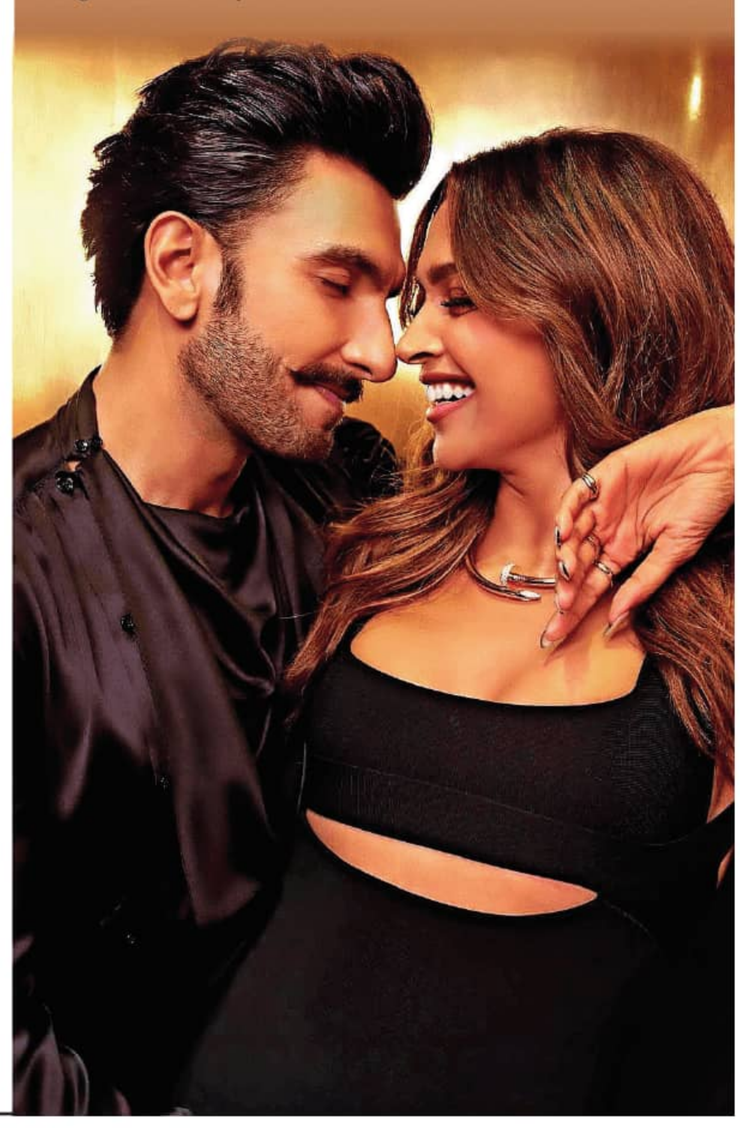
Made for each other

Ranveer Singh has once again reminded fans why he is considered one of Bollywood's most expressive partners. A clip has been circulating widely on social media, the actor spoke about his bond with wife Deepika Padukone in a way that fans described as "protective, grounding, and deeply respectful."

Speaking about the role he plays in his wife's career in his interview to Miss Malini, Ranveer said, "I'm there to support her, her endeavours, her achievements, help or contribute or do whatever I can to help propel her to achieve her aspirations, ambitions, desires. I'm there for her, I'm her person and vice versa." The couple is currently in the US right now- they brought in the new year together after the super success of Dhurandhar and at this point Deepika is attending her friend's wedding there.

Ranveer and Deepika first met on the sets of Goliyon Ki Raasleela Ram-Leela in 2012, and what followed was one of Bollywood's most closely followed relationships of the decade. After years of speculation, the couple finally tied the knot in 2018 in a private ceremony in Lake Como, Italy, surrounded by close family and friends. Photos from the wedding dominated Indian social media for weeks and cemented them as one of the most influential power couples in the industry.

—ETimes



Kendall Jenner breaks silence on "lesbian" rumours, says "I can speak for myself"

Supermodel Kendall Jenner is finally clearing the air, addressing one of the controversial rumours surrounding her sexuality.

In a recent podcast, Jenner opened up on how the internet believes her to be a lesbian, adding that it would not have been an issue for her to come out in public.

"There's the whole side of the internet that thinks I'm a lesbian. I understand that coming out is not an easy thing for anybody, if not most people. And I'm not saying that's an easy thing, but knowing, and I can speak for myself here, and knowing myself, I think at this point in my life I'd be out if I was," as quoted by Page Six.

Reiterating her views on revealing her sexuality to the world, the 30-year-old 'Kardashians' star added, "I'm not saying it's an easy thing. I'm just saying that knowing me and knowing how I would want to live my life, I would be. I'd have no problem being that. I think that there's this whole narrative that I'm hiding this thing. All's to say, as of today, I am not. I don't think I will be, but I'm not closing doors to experiences in life." Coming to the supermodel's personal life, Kendall Jenner has been linked to several famous people, including singer Harry Styles, NBA player Devin Booker, and rapper Bad Bunny, reported People.

Despite her recent remarks, Jenner prefers to keep her dating life away from the spotlight.

—ANI

Red rising star

Sara Arjun, Bollywood's fresh face, is winning hearts online after starring with Ranveer Singh in 'Dhurandhar'. The actress plays a politician's daughter, earning loads of praise for the role. Now, she shared amazing pictures on social media from her latest photoshoot.

Taking to Instagram, fashion photographer Sasha Jairam join Sara to share the photos on the internet. They feature Sara in a red gown with a plunging back and her hair styled in a messy bun.

The photoshoot took place in a softly lit room adorned with chandeliers and framed artwork. Danish Pandor, the actor behind Uzair Baloch in 'Dhurandhar', filled the comments with heart reactions. Fans chimed in with praise like "Unreal face card." One shared, "Absolutely loved this post, Sara. There's a quiet grace in the way you express yourself—it feels effortless yet deeply meaningful. Your words and presence come together so beautifully, leaving a calm and positive impression. Truly elegant and inspiring to see."

—ETimes

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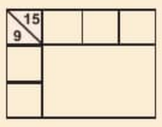
SOLVE IT IN A MINUTE

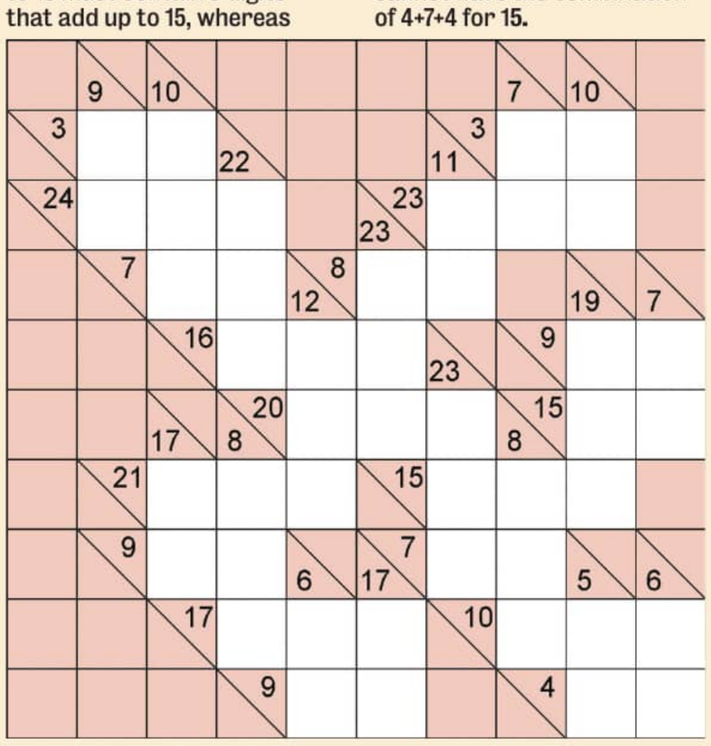
Joe was born 1577880000 seconds ago. What is his age to the nearest year?

Kakuro

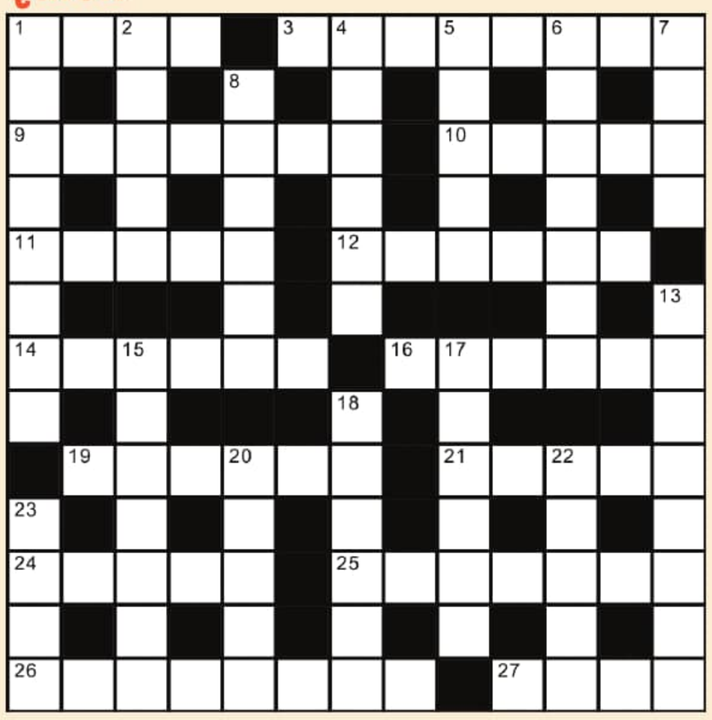
The numbers in the grey squares refer to the sums of the digits that you must fill into the empty spaces directly below or to the right of the grey square containing the number. For instance, in the given example, the 3 boxes horizontally next to 15 must contain 3 digits that add up to 15, whereas for 9, it is the 2 boxes placed vertically under it that must add up to 9. No zeros are used here, only the digits 1 through 9.



Note: A digit cannot appear more than once in any particular digit combination. For instance, in the example, we cannot have the combination of 4+7+4 for 15.



Quick



ACROSS

1 Jason's ship (4)
3 Melting pot (8)
9 Big Bang Theory's ____ Cooper (7)
10 At the same level (5)
11 Mr Starr of The Beatles (5)
12 Up-to-date (4,2)
14 Yielding or resigning (6)
16 On the ship (6)
19 Wretched, contemptible (6)
21 Dairy topping (5)
24 Head ornament (5)
25 He resists (7)
26 Laments, dirges and even eulogies (3,5)
27 Action word (4)

DOWN

1 Not material (8)
2 Grass colour (5)
4 Fame (6)
5 Swindle (5)
6 Movie theatre in Gandhi Nagar (7)
7 Mystery writer ___ Stanley Gardner (4)
8 Abut or border on (6)
13 Eve is said to have been made form this? (5,3)
15 Expert–"had band" anagram? (3,4)
17 Upper arm muscle (6)
18 Mighty (6)
20 Muse of poetry (5)
22 Follow (5)
23 Greek letters–"seat" changed? (4)

Quoteuncode

This puzzle is a substitution cipher in which one letter stands for another. If you think that Q equals C, it will equal C throughout the puzzle. Single letters, short words and words using an apostrophe give you clues to locating vowels. Solution is by trial and error.

Today's CLUE: D EQUALS G

M CVD XMYA GR RVUMUPVMF RYHHJGL VO TMNVUD ZGBY THMYA MUJ LVUJ RYHH RYGL EGYYZ MCGBA ATH ETMA-VRO GR FVRH.

Linemaro

I am not flirting. I am just being extra nice to someone who is extra attractive

Mindchow

Erudition: Dust shaken out of a book into an empty skull

Joke of the day

If you can imagine a man having a vasectomy without anesthetic to the sound of frantic sitar playing, you will have some idea of what popular Turkish music is like -- Bill Bryson.

Loop

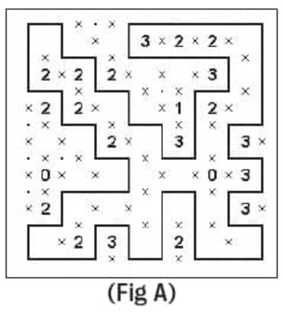
Rules

» Connect adjacent dots with vertical or horizontal lines, creating a single loop (Fig A). » Crossovers or branches are not allowed (As shown by dotted lines in Fig B). » Numbers in the puzzle indicate the number of lines that should surround it, while empty cells may be surrounded by any number of lines. » You can't draw lines around zeros. » Each puzzle has just one unique solution.

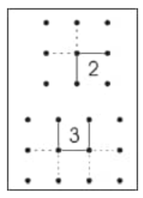
How to begin:

Example (Fig A) – Begin with the zero next to 3. Since no lines can be drawn around zero, mark crosses around it, as shown. Now there is a cross in one space around 3. So we know the three lines of 3 can only be drawn in the remaining three spaces. Next, these lines can only be extended in one direction each. Continue, using the same logic.

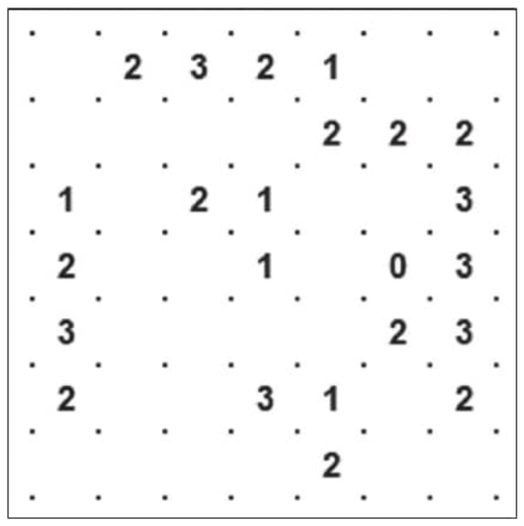
Hints: Keep eliminating possibilities by marking crosses in spaces between dots where a line isn't possible, i.e., if you have already completed required lines or where a line extension may create a branch or cause a dead-end (Fig B)



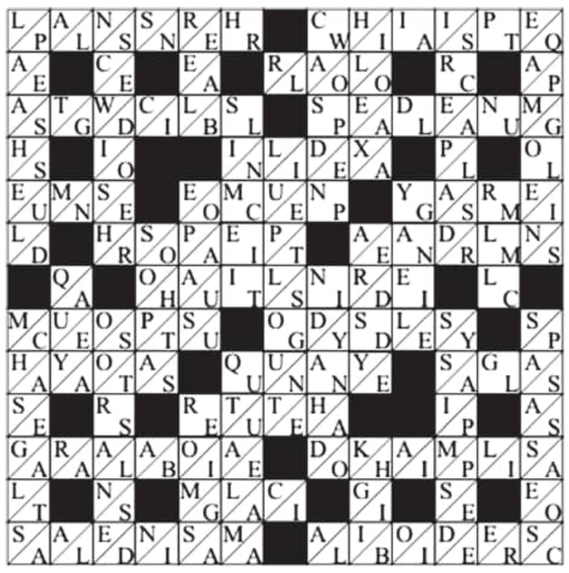
(Fig A)



(Fig B) Not Allowed



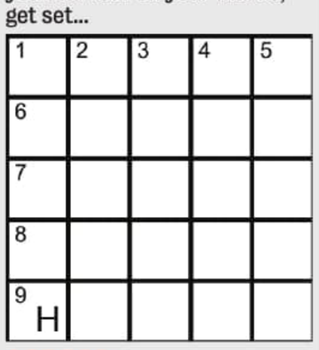
Strikeout



This crossword has no clues and the answer is there waiting for you. All you have to do is find it in each square. You have a choice of two letters, one of which you must strike out. If you choose correctly, you will be left with a grid that contains real words.

Fast five

How long do you think it will take you to unscramble the ten words shown below and fit them correctly into the grid in the order given one letter has already been entered to get you started? on your marks, get set...



ACROSS

1 SS Law; 6 Macho; 7 Laura; 8 Pents; 9 Hey DG

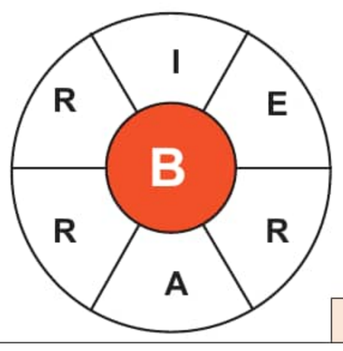
DOWN

1 Shams; 2 Up Leo; 3 Cadre; 4 Hang W; 5 Slaty

Mensapuzzle

Which number finishes this puzzle?

Bull's eye



How many words of four or more letters can you make from the letters shown? Every word must contain the central letter. There should be one seven-letter word. British English Dictionary is used as a reference.

05 Average; **06** Good; **08** Outstanding

SudokuChallenge

5		7	4		3	1		2
			9		1			
	2						3	
		3	5		2	7		
1		2				5		3
		6	1		4	8		
	1						5	
			2		8			
3		5	7		9	2		6

To solve a Sudoku puzzle, every digit from one to nine must appear in each of the nine vertical columns, in each of the nine horizontal rows and in each of the nine boxes.

Gofigure

Place the four numbers in the first, third, fifth, and seventh boxes and whatever operators you care to use in the second, fourth, and sixth boxes in the correct order to get the answer. Use the numbers only once.

Easy

= 2

1 4 5 6

Medium

= 9

8 7 6 2

Hard

= 9

2 4 7 3

Hocusfocus

Find at least six differences in details between panels.

Differences: 1. Box is longer. 2. Girl's arm is moved. 2. Man's sleeve is shorter. 4. Curtain is different. 5. Man's ear is larger. 6. Girl's hair is different.

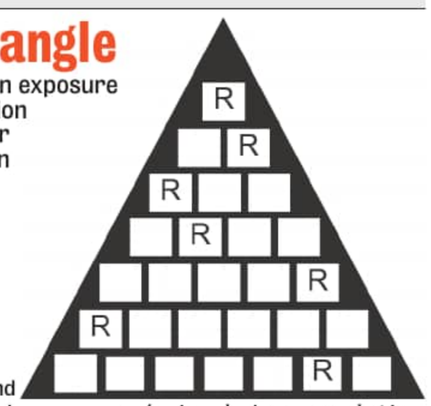
Riddler

The second word in each pair is created by taking the middle two letters of the first word and then adding the first letter of the first word and the last letter of the first word. Sylalist: al, ag, er, ful, ga, hope, ig, im, ine, ize, loo, rand, re, rus, sa, wal

1. Arctic marine mammal (2), 2. Eskimo Home (2), 3. Optimistic (2), 4. Understand Clearly (3), 5. Chore (2), 6. Suppose (3) & 7. Long Narrative (2)

Alpha triangle

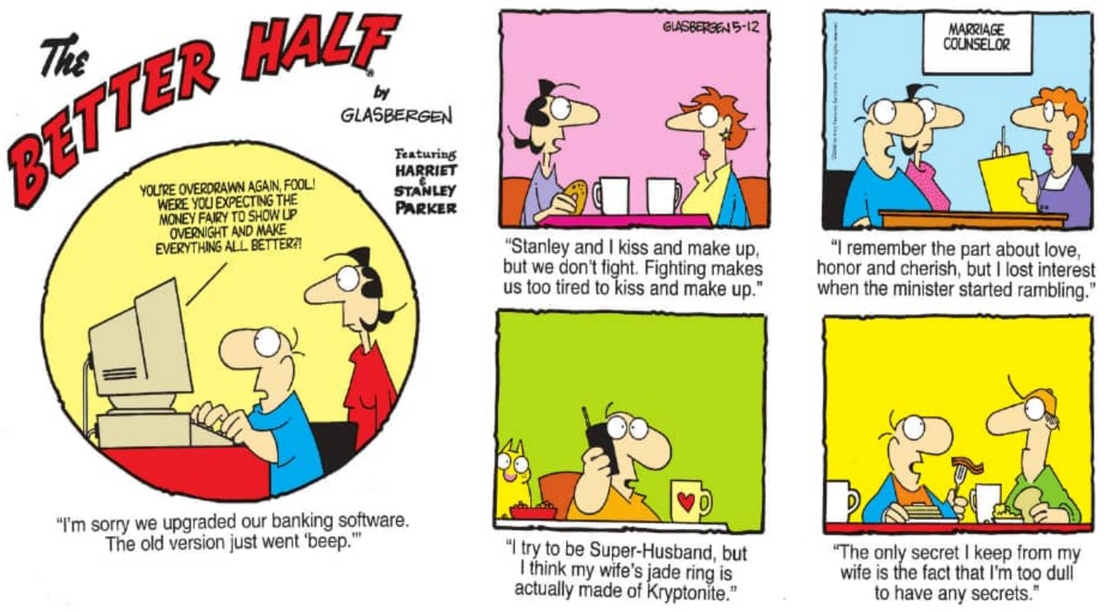
1 A unit of radiation exposure
2 Sound of hesitation
3 Female sandpiper
4 Ygdrasil or rowan
5 Dissuade
6 Took a break
7 Sweet course



Beginning at the top move towards the bottom seven-letter word by adding a letter at each step and rearranging. A correct and different word must be made at each step answering to the clue given.

DIFFICULT TO SOLVE? FIND THESE SOLUTIONS ON THE NEXT PAGE »

COMICS



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